

PRESS RELEASE

House Armed Services Committee Bob Stump, Chairman

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PRESS ADVISORY

*House Armed Services Subcommittee to conduct meetings on
domestic violence in the military in Fayetteville and Fort Bragg, North Carolina*

The Subcommittee on Military Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services of the U.S. House of Representatives today announced plans to conduct meetings on September 30, 2002 in Fayetteville and Fort Bragg, North Carolina to examine issues associated with domestic violence in the military. The meetings with relevant military and civilian personnel and domestic violence prevention organizations will allow the committee to assess the military's efforts to prevent domestic violence, intervene in domestic violence matters, and investigate and follow-up domestic violence incidents.

In the morning, the subcommittee will conduct meetings at Fort Bragg with military officials, including installation and unit commanders and representatives from military organizations involved in domestic violence prevention and intervention efforts. In the afternoon, the subcommittee will conduct meetings at Fayetteville Technical Community College with various groups including civilian community officials, advocacy groups, law enforcement officials, and women's shelter officials.

Although the meetings will not be open to the public, members of the subcommittee will address the media in the afternoon (see details below).

Media Information:

- The meetings will not be open to the public or the media.
- Members of the Armed Services Committee will conduct a press conference upon conclusion of the final afternoon meeting (approximately 3:15 p.m.) at the Student Center at Fayetteville Technical Community College.
- All members of the press interested in attending the press conference should contact the House Armed Services Committee Press Office at (202) 225-2539.
- Directions: A map of Fayetteville Technical Community College and the immediate area is available at <http://www.faytechcc.edu/FTCCCatalog/ftccmap.htm>. All afternoon meetings will take place in the FTCC Student Center.

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Tentative Meetings:

- Morning Meetings with Military Commanders and Organizations (at Fort Bragg):
 - o Senior Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base Leaders
 - o Command Officials from Special Operations and Conventional Army and Air Force Units
 - o Reserve Unit Representatives
 - o Family Readiness Groups Representatives
 - o Installation Family Advocacy Program Representative
 - o Installation/Command Chaplain Representative
 - o Mental Health Provider Representative
 - o Installation Law Enforcement Representative
 - o Staff Judge Advocate / Legal Representative
 - o DOD Task Force on Domestic Violence (DTFDV) Representative
- Afternoon Meetings with Civilian Community Officials and Advocacy Groups (at Fayetteville Technical Community College)
 - o Crisis Intervention Officials
 - o Law Enforcement Officials
 - o Prosecutor/Legal Officials
 - o Medical Examiner
 - o North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence Representative
 - o Women's Shelter Officials
 - o Other National/State Groups
 - o DTFDV Representative

Background Information:

The jurisdiction of the House Armed Services Committee covers the breadth of the operations of the Department of Defense (DOD) as well as the significant national security portions of the annual operating budget of the Department of Energy. The national defense budget will approach \$400 billion in fiscal year 2003, and affects millions of military and civilian personnel, thousands of facilities, and hundreds of agencies, departments, and commands located throughout the world. The oversight responsibilities of the Committee on Armed Services are conducted primarily within the context of the committee's consideration of the annual defense authorization bill.

The committee divides its responsibilities between five standing subcommittees (Military Procurement, Military Research and Development, Military Readiness, Military Installations and Facilities, and Military Personnel) and four special oversight panels (Moral, Welfare, and Recreation, Merchant Marine, Terrorism, and Department of Energy Reorganization).

The Military Personnel Subcommittee is chaired by U.S. Representative John McHugh (R-NY) and is comprised of 18 members of Congress. The committee is responsible for the annual authorization of funding for military forces and end strengths, integration of active and reserve components, military personnel policy, compensation and other benefits, and related legislative oversight.

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